



THE CHERRY JUICE

Newsletter of the
CHERRYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN



ARRL Affiliated
Club #1082



Club Officers

President

Joe Erlewein N8CN

Vice President

Ernie Abel K8RCT

Recording Secretary

David Poinsett NU8A

Corresponding Secretary

Joe Schnaidt, KC8RLU

Treasurer

Ward Kuhn, N8WK

Directors

Mike Cleary, W8VPC

Dave Hanchett, KJ4KFJ

Chuck Mellberg, W8SGR

Station Manager

Joe Schnaidt, KC8RLU

Cherry Juice Editor

Joe Erlewein N8CN

Club Repeaters

W8TCM/R 146.86- (PL 114.8)

W8ZTB Memorial Repeater

W8TCM/R 442.50- (PL 114.8)

W8NGH Memorial Repeater

Club Radio Nets

MESH NET

Monday Evening Social Hour

Each Monday, 8pm

146.860 MHz (-) (PL 114.8)

SMASH NET

Sunday Morning Amateur Social

Hour

Each Sunday, 9am

3.935 MHz

Stay Informed! Check out the
club website:

www.CherrylandARC.com

Club Meeting – January 22nd, 7pm

Program: 2019 Elections -and- A Special Video!

The CARC Board has recommended a "slate" for 2019 which will be presented for acceptance. ANY active member is welcome to nominate themselves or another member. Unchallenged positions will be chosen by Quorum vote, Challenged positions will be chosen by a general election.

2019 CARC Officers

Proposed Slate, 1/8/2019

President

Joe Schnaidt, KC8RLU

Vice-President

Glen Johnson, K8SGZ

Treasurer

Ward Kuhn, N8WK

Recording Secretary

David Poinsett, WB8APT

Corresponding Secretary

Ernest Abel, K8RCT

Board Member 1

Mike Cleary, W8VPC

Cherry Juice Editor

Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 1/22/2019 - CARC General Meeting - Program: **Elections** and Video
- 1/29/2019 - CARC Project Night
- 2/5/2019 - CARC Project Night and Board Meeting
- 2/9/2019 - 2019 46th annual CARC Swap-N-Shop
- 2/12/2019 - CARC Project Night
- 2/17/2019 - Livonia Swap-N-Shop
- 2/19/2019 - CARC Project Night
- 2/26/2019 - CARC General Meeting

For more details, check out the CARC Calendar:

http://cherrylandarc.com/?page_id=26

DUES ARE DUE FOR 2019 - ARE YOU PAID UP? (See last pg!)

White Pine Stampede

The 2019 White Pine Stampede is approaching and we need several volunteers with radios along the trail to assist with event and safety communications. The event is Feb 2nd, and runs 8am to 5pm. It begins at the Mancelona High School and ends in Bellaire.



If you are interested in assisting with communications, please contact Mike W8VPC. You do not need radio equipment as some is available, but stations who are able to operate from a vehicle or a portable/battery post (dress accordingly! It's cold!) are very valuable along the course.



Contact: Mike W8VPC: mjc4502@gmail.com
 ph: 231-544-8181
 (after 5:30pm weekdays – text messaging OK)

Christmas Dinner Report

The CARC Christmas Dinner for 2018 was a spectacular event, we hope that you didn't miss it! Attendees included Tom WS4M and Judi, Mike W8VPC, Joe K8DT and Dee, Vince KG8WF, Ernie K8RCT and Jennifer, Bob W8RAK XYL, Sandy KE8IWK, Joe N8CN and family, Pete K8WQK, Toby KC8VSU, Joe KC8RLU, Glen K8SGZ and Debbie, Eric and Byrdie, Hope AA8SN, Ward N8WK, Tom KE8CVM, Denise, Joe W8TVT and Janet N8RRR, Neil and Kimberli, and Dave NU8A. If I missed you or something isn't right, please let me know! We scribbled as much as we could, as fast as we could!

This year we gave out several awards for participation in CARC events. Also, we gave out some special-edition CARC/TBARG coffee mugs to



a few members who always go "above and beyond" to help with club events and activities. Recipients of the Mug award were Glen K8SGZ, Joe KC8RLU, Toby KC8VSU, Ward N8WK, and Joe W8TVT.

Glen also presented the spouses of all of the members of the club with a Rose to thank them for yet another year of "enduring" this silly hobby of ours. And we know this doesn't nearly "cut it" as far as thanks go - and Glen set out this year to show what it means to us. Glen awarded his wife Debbie with an actual Emmy award. Don't ask him how it was procured, but Debbie was presented with this award for her patience and dedication to Glen and his pursuit of this Ham Radio hobby thing. Thank you and Congratulations, Debbie, and ALL of our supportive spouses. And if you missed the dinner, you missed your chance to touch and/or see an actual Emmy award in real life!



The history of the Cherryland ARC's Ham of the Year (HOTY) award begins in 1993 when Bill Martinek W8JUY passed away. Bill was a staple in the Traverse City area and beyond, and also a very active member and supporter of the Cherryland ARC. Bill was a driving force when the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club was first started back in the late 40's.

In the 60's, Bill was there to help the club rejuvenate to again provide service to those interested in Amateur Radio. Bill was a gracious contributor to the club's swap and many other activities, and was primary motivator and the trustee of the CARC 146.86 (then 146.85) Repeater

To honor and pay tribute to Bill's memory, the annual Ham of the Year award was established. The first recipient of the award was to our own club president in 1993 - Chuck Mellberg W8SGR - for his many contributions to the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club. Each year since 1993, the HOTY has been awarded to a club member. These names are listed in the beginning of each annual Cherryland ARC Directory. You can pick up your 2019 edition of the directory this year at the club Swap-N-Shop!

The 2018 Cherryland Amateur Radio Club Ham of The Year (HOTY) is Dave Poinsett, NU8A.



Dave has given several presentations to the club lately, and has been instrumental in the success of several events, projects and activities with the Cherryland ARC. He is a great teacher, is well known and established in the community, and moreover is a joy to work with and generous with his time and assistance. His character in the Amateur Radio community exemplifies what it means to be a good operator, a good elmer, a custodian of the technology, and a representative to the global community. We are proud and grateful to have Dave NU8A as a Cherryland ARC member. Thank you, Dave, and Congratulations!

The Food at the Elks was great, and all had a wonderful meal.

Thanks! Joe N8CN

2019 Swap-N-Shop is almost here!

NEW LOCATION

The 46th Annual Cherryland Amateur Radio Club Swap-N-Shop will be held on Saturday, February 9, from 8am-12pm.

There is a new location this year, as the previous location .. well.. it no longer exists! The old Immaculate Conception Elementary School on Vine St. was torn down, and a new building is being constructed currently, and is not yet ready for use. Due to this change, the new location is:

St. Francis High School Gymnasium

123 E. 11th Street, Traverse City, MI 49684

Talk-in on 146.86 (pl 114.8).

VE Exams start at 10am.

Admission is \$5.00 and tables are \$8.00.

For more swap information or table reservations contact Joe Novak W8TVT at (231) 947-8555

Parking is convenient at the corner of Cass and 11th street in the school's parking lot - a map is available here:

<https://goo.gl/maps/zQ4yqf9GAgT2>

For more information, visit:

http://cherrylandarc.com/?page_id=56

The Purple Crystal: A Column About Repeaters

Joe Erlewein, N8CN

Wow! This might be my last column as CARC President! As our family welcomes child #5 on (or around) Jan 23, I'll be spending more time focusing on the position of "Dad" - so the "President" role can be filled by someone who can spend the time necessary on club events to make it what it needs to be.. (I've felt guilty a few times this last year for spending a lot of time on the Presidential role for the club, and less than I probably should have on Family things) .. So, this year that will need to change.

I have had a blast in this role, and I feel like the club is doing quite well. This is NOT because of me, however! It's because of all the super help and awesome volunteers that make up our membership! I want to thank ALL of YOU for DOING what YOU DO! YOU are the reason Amateur Radio is fun, interesting, and also the reason that the Cherryland ARC is a vital, active, and fun group - one of the more active groups in Northern Lower Michigan. We should celebrate that! I am very thankful for all of the help and guidance everyone has offered. I hope some day that I can again be a part of the leadership of this wonderful organization, which is an important part of my life and who I am. Thank you all for that!

On to the topic of repeaters! There have been a few changes recently on the 146.86 and 442.5 W8TCM club repeaters. With the help and resources donated by Vinny KG8WF, we've been experimenting a bit with Wires-X digital linking on the repeaters.

At first, for less than a week, we had the Wires-X link enabled on the 146.86 repeater. Technically, it seemed to work OK, but a few logistics issues popped up. The first was that the Wires-X link makes the repeater "more busy" in Digital mode, which can be confusing to analog-only users who aren't mindful of looking at the Green RX light or indicator on their radios, and wondering if they are getting into the repeater properly after transmitting. In reality, they probably transmitted over another Digital user, causing interference, but had no idea. Also, with the analog-only MESH net on Monday nights, we felt it best to avoid having an active Wires-X link enabled full-time, or at least "at that time."

Yaesu design issues actually forced our hand on making the change. Sometime on a Friday Dec 21, 86 experienced a "strange digital lock-up condition" where it would ONLY transmit a digital preamble tone (no actual data) regardless of the input signal. More disturbing, ANY signal presence at the input (even one with no or an incorrect PL tone) would cause the repeater to transmit this harsh tone for approximately 4 minutes straight. It would then politely ID, and go back to sleep. But aside from being a triggered beacon, the repeater was unusable in either Analog or Digital mode.

We actually had this problem before with the DR-1X repeaters which is why we upgraded them to DR-2X repeaters, in a hope to get away from some serious Yaesu design flaws. As it turns out, it's apparently still an issue in this model as well. We've contacted Yaesu but they do not seem interested in investigating the issue further.

After an in-depth technical analysis by your beloved author, we believe it's related to the transition between Digital and Analog signals in some way. Because the UHF repeater has fewer analog users overall, we decided that was "another good reason" to try moving the Wires-X link to 442.5 instead of keeping it on 86 and risking another lock-up. If the UHF repeater locked up similarly, it would be less impactful anyway. Also, this plan sounded better than "throwing in the towel" with respect to Wires-X completely.

So, Brook N8OCX assisted Vince KG8WF with a UHF base station antenna, and now the Wires-X link is active on 442.5. Please give it a try! If you have a dual-band YSF radio, you can probably get into the UHF repeater just as well as 86, as they have roughly the same coverage.

PLEASE DO let us know if you experience issues, or if the repeater "locks up" again. We have one remote method that seemed to work to get the system reset. Since Yaesu doesn't believe that "the repeater actually locks up in AMS mode with a stock configuration" we'll be sure to get more video evidence of it before attempting a reset.

Hopefully we can convince them to repair their broken product line. We'd love to continue to use Yaesu System Fusion in AMS (Automatic Mode Select) mode, which allows analog users to continue using the repeaters as they're used to doing. The CARC has no interest at this time in converting either repeater to Digital-only, as analog use has been important to an easy majority of users, and also is tantamount to successful emergency communications events and exercises.

Livonia Swap

The Livonia (Michigan) Amateur Radio Club (<http://www.livoniaarc.com>) is having its Swap & Shop on Sunday, February 17, 2019 from 8am till noon at the Livonia Seniors Center 15218 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154.

More information:

<http://www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop>

MESH NET CONTROL

The Cherryland ARC is seeking people interested in running **Net Control** for the Monday Evening Social Hour Net (**MESH Net**) on 146.86, Monday Nights at 8pm. We would like a new person to take this role each month in 2019. Please contact Joe N8CN (joe@n8cn.org), Toby KC8VSU, or Joe KC8RLU if you are interested!

Thanks!

Livonia Amateur Radio Club

Talk-in
145.35 with 100 PL
or 146.52 Simplex

49th ANNUAL SWAP-N-SHOP

GREAT
VENDOR
ACCESS



Buy and Sell Amateur Radio
Gear, Computers, or
Electronic Test Equipment

Civic Park Senior Center
15218 Farmington Rd.
Livonia, MI
(SE corner of Farmington
Rd. and 5 Mile Rd.)

Livonia ARC
P.O. Box 51532
Livonia, MI 48151-0532
www.livoniaarc.com

Call (734) 941-5043

or e-mail us at k8uns@arrl.net

Sunday, February 17, 2019 8:00am - 12:00pm



- *Lots of Tables
(8' tables for \$16 each
if paid in advance or
\$20.00 if available and
paid at the door)
- *Door Prizes
- *Food Concession
- *Tickets \$5.00



46th Annual HAM RADIO

Swap-N-Shop

SATURDAY

February 9th, 2019

8am - noon

Admission \$5.00 – Table \$8.00

**Door
Prizes!**

NEW LOCATION

St. Francis High School
Gymnasium
123 E. 11th Street
Traverse City, MI 49684

Parking at Cass and 11th street parking lot
[Click for Map !](#)

**VE
Exams
10 am**

VE Exam Info:

Hope, AA8SN:
hopeaa8sn@gmail.com
or 231-218-0622



**An ARRL-Sanctioned
Swap Event**

www.CherrylandARC.com

For information or table reservations, call:
Joe Novak W8TVT at (231) 947-8555
[\(or click here\)](#)



Talk-In
146.860 (-)
W8TCM / R
PL 114.8 / YSF

Approved Minutes for
Cherryland Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting 8/7/2018

Present:

Joe N8CN, Joe W8TVT, Joe KC8RLU, Dave NU8A, Dave KJ4KFJ, Neil KY8H,
Hope AA8SN, Ward N8WK, Mike W8VPC, Glen K8SGZ, Brennen KE8JVZ

1. Review Minutes – **Dave KJ4KFJ move to approve minutes. Joe N8CN seconds. Approved.**
2. Treasurer Report – Ward N8WK
 - a. Grigsby equipment has been a tremendous contribution.
 - b. Renewed the Club Call license, W8TCM.
 - c. \$7K in bank
- d. Report on sale of equipment from N8NSL estate – Joe W8TVT
 - e. We have sold \$1255 so far. There is much more to go.
 - f. Joe N8CN, Joe W8TVT, Tom KE8CVM, and Ernie K8RCT to begin online listings.
- g. Receive Donation of VHF radios from TC Fire Dept.
 - h. Chief Tuller (City Fire) offered them.
 - i. Ernie K8RCT will receive them.
 - j. Need to write a receipt and indicate our 501(c3) status
 - k. Glen K8SGZ, Joe N8CN, Ward W8WK, and Ernie K8RCT to facilitate with respect to CARC or TBARG reception
- l. TBARG Report – Glen K8SGZ
 - m. Digital FLDIGI working well – AndFLMSG – Now sending and receiving messages on the Monday night NETs.
 - n. Spotlight on a portable hotspot with storage, battery, and filesharing services. Good for events, simple and long-life.
 - o. Hoping to get the CCE group actively involved.
- p. NET REPORTS
 - q. MESH – Going Well – could use a backup Net Control!
 - r. TBARG – Going Well – Digital exercises continue.
 - s. SMASH – N/A
- t. Committee Items
 - u. SATC Viability Committee
 - i. Qualified Inspection is necessary
 1. Mike Leggett is a good contact for grounding / towers
 - ii. Topics to look at
 1. Is the tower itself safe?
 2. Does the wiring meet code?
 - iii. Board recommends to have Steve and other parties quote out inspection and R&D work.
 - iv. Dave NU8A will return next month with a report.
 - v. Joe N8CN to pursue written OK of current structure to complement previous gratis analysis.
 - vi. We do have a 48ft free-standing tower, just need a base.
 - vii. Joe to check into Base Kit and Bolt Kit
 - v. Outreach Committee -
 - i. Members of committee: Joe N8CN, Ted N6QXA
 1. Joe to reach out to Jim KE8BHO
 - ii. Outreach Coordinator – Ted N6QXA
 - w. #GOREC – Joe KC8RLU, Mike W8VPC – Joe to provide contact info for upcoming visit.
- x. Announcements / Meetings / Events
- y. Christmas in July- Huge Thanks!
- z. General Meeting Programs-
 - i. 08/11: VE session Saturday – 1pm TADL / D
 - ii. 08/26: ((Foxhunt)) – N8WK's nephew is the FOX (Robert) – 3pm SATC. Sleders After.
 - iii. 09/25: John KC9ON on Digital Mode / FT8?
 - iv. 10/23: Dayton Report ? (Ken, et al)
 - v. 11/27: SDR (NU8A)
 - vi. 12/25: ((Christmas Party! Ward to figure out a date.))
- vii. N8CN moves to purchase a new Tech guide. Dave NU8A seconds. → carries
- viii. Adjourn - **Dave KJ4KFJ moves, Dave Nu8A seconds. Adjourned.**

Approved Minutes for
Cherryland Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting 9/4/2018

Present: Joe KC8RLU, Mark KC8ZAP, Dave KJ4KFJ, Tom KV8CVM, Joe W8TVT,
Glen K8SVG, Ernie K8RCT, Joe N8CN, Dave NU8A

1. Review Minutes - No minutes
2. Treasurer Report - Ward N8WK - absent
3. Sale of equipment from N8NSL estate
 - a. W8TVT reports that we have sold \$6,040 so far. There is much more to go including some big-ticket items.
1. Donation of VHF radios from Traverse City Fire Department
 - a. Ernie K8RCT sent a letter to Chief Tuller to make arrangements to get the gear. Waiting to hear back.
1. TBARG Report - Glen K8SGZ
 - a. About 12 people now using digital FLDIGI and FLMSG to send and receive messages. Practice on the Monday night NET.
 - b. Skywarn was activated during recent storms
 - c. Glen requesting Munson email address for file sharing
 - d. Planning to meet with CCE (Charlevoix) group about digital messaging
 - e. Glen has set up a shared folder for TBARGS messages for reports
1. NET REPORTS - Mike is absent
 - a. It would be valuable to review procedures/protocol/etiquette during emergency activations.
1. Committee Items
 - a. SATC Viability Committee
 - i. At the board's direction, Dave NU8A contacted licensed electrician Mike Leggett about grounding, and submitted a written report to the board. Leggett says that the present tower and cable grounding is not compliant with safety requirements. Leggett may be available to do an inspection or additional work in November or later.
 - ii. No report on tower
 - b. Outreach Committee - No report
 - c. #GOREC - Joe KC8RLU, Mike W8VPC
 - i. Joe will work on getting some of the Fire Dept radios for GOREC
 - ii. Joe and Joe will arrange an antenna party.
1. Announcements / Meetings / Events
 - a. General Meeting Programs-
 - i. 09/25: John KC9ON on Digital Mode / FT8
 - ii. 10/23: Dayton Report? (Ken, et al)
 - iii. 1½7: SDR (NU8A)
 - iv. 12/25: Christmas Party! Ward to figure out a date.
- 1.** Ernie proposes a straight key night and program by George N8RU on McElroy key
- 2.** Motion to adjourn by Ernie K8RCT, Jo KC8RLU seconds. Adjourned

Approved Minutes for
Cherryland Amateur Radio Club
Board Meeting 10/2/2018

Present: Dave KJ4KFJ, Tom KE8CVM, Glen K8SVZ, Joe W8TVT, Joe KC8RLU, Ward W8WK,
Joe N8CN, Dave NU8A, Mark KC8ZAP

1. Review Minutes - **Ward W8WK moves to approve August and September minutes, Joe KC8RLU seconds. Approved**
 2. Treasurer Report – Ward N8WK
 - a. About \$9K in bank. Some money owed to Ms. Grigsby from N8NSL gear sale.
 - b. Orchestrate sale of equipment from N8NSL estate. (TVT)
 - c. Sold the Alpha for \$2400 + \$100 for shipping. Shipping actually is \$300. Being worked out. FT2000 still for sale.
 - d. Receive Donation of VHF radios from Fire Dept.
 - e. No update
 - f. TBARG Report – Glen K8SGZ
 - g. Glen is working on QST article about cheap and reliable emergency communication.
 - h. Simulated Emergency Test Oct 12-13
 - i. Copper Ridge Surgery Center interested in amateur emergency communication gear.
 - j. NET REPORTS
 - k. MESH – Toby KC8VSU taking over from Mike for a while
 - l. TBARG – Going well. Continuing digital use.
 - m. SMASH – Okay
 - n. Committee Items
 - o. SATC Viability Committee
 1. Dave NU8A conversed w/ Mike Leggett and provided notes on Grounding/estimate.
 2. Mike said it should be bonded to main water pipe in the building.
 - i. Joe N8CN spoke with Northern Tower.
 1. John Gordon speaking with foreman Jim Goodyear about options
 - a. Inspection / full inspection and write-up. John will get back with Joe in October.
 - b. Rolling this cost into something else? (erection of new, etc)
 - ii. We do have a 48ft free-standing tower, just need a base.
 1. Bolt Kit/Base cost: Joe CN has left VM for TBX Tower.
 - p. #GOREC –
 - i. Oct 6 Antenna Work – No one can make it.
 - ii. Oct 13 Trailblazer – need volunteers!
 - iii. Oct 19-21 – JOTA!
 - iv. Lock Box Builds -> Project Night - Joe N8CN and Joe KC8RLU have plans and will build
 - v. Announcements / Meetings / Events
 - q. General Meeting Programs-
 - i. 10/23: Dayton Report? (Ken, et al) Japanese Fox Hunt?
 - ii. 11/27: SDR (NU8A)
 - iii. 12/25: Christmas Party! Dec 2, 5:30pm
 - r. Ideas:
 - i. Morse Code Hand Keys – N8RU – Straight Key Night
 - ii. Lee W8WA's system
 - s. Ward reports that depending on building schedule, Immaculate Conception gym might not be available for February swap. Joe N8CN has back-up plan.
 - t. Ward moves to set April 2019 date for General Meeting and presentation by Ed K8ZZ on mobile radio, Dave NU8A seconds. Approved.
 - u. Adjourn - Joe N8CN 1st: Joe KC8RLU 2nd: Adjourned
- <SK>

That's all for the January 2019 issue of The Cherry Juice! As always, if you have any suggestions or comments, I'm all ears! –

joe@n8cn.org

73, Joe N8CN

The CARC meets for a "project night" on **all other Tuesday nights** at 7pm. Anyone is welcome to come and use the tools, parts, resources, and "elmers" in the project room / SATERN station.

All Meetings occur at the **Salvation Army building** on **Barlow St.** (at Boon st.) in **Traverse City.**

The project room is on the **basement level.**

Cherryland ARC Information:

Club Meetings:

The official CARC Club Meeting occurs on the **Fourth Tuesday** of each month at 7pm. Anyone is welcome.

Board Meetings:

The CARC Board meets on the **First Tuesday** of each month at 7pm. Board meetings are open all.

Project Night:

To become a member of the CARC:

1. Fill out a membership form.

You may fill out a form at any meeting, fill out the form online via the website, or you can email cherrylandarc@gmail.com to receive a form via email.

2. Submit dues with your form.

Dues are \$24 per year and are due January 1 each year or with your membership form submission. (pro-rated)
(Family Memberships available for \$26)

CARC Membership Application form

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Nickname: _____
 Callsign (if any): _____ Class (if any): _____
 Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____
 ZIP: _____

Email (we promise not to spam): _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
 Occupation: _____ Spouse: _____

ARRL Member? (Y/N): _____

Annual dues are \$24.00

Please complete the above and mail along with your payment to:

Ward Kuhn N8WK
 PO Box 987
 Traverse City, MI 49685



<SK>